



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

---

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)

---

**DECEMBER 4, 2002**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **SEVEN INDICTED IN METH CONSPIRACY**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that seven Kansas City area residents were indicted by a federal grand jury today on charges related to a conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine.

**Eddie Lynn Barker**, 41, and **Mervil Mathews**, 37, both of Peculiar, Mo.; **Robert Cantwell**, 24, of Belton, Mo.; **Edward W. Bowman**, 41, **Timothy H. Baker**, 40, **David G. Hall**, 46, and **Genelle A. Rhoades**, 44, all of Kansas City, Mo.; were charged in a six-count superseding indictment returned by a federal grand jury meeting in Kansas City.

Today's superseding indictment, Graves explained, includes additional charges and additional defendants, replacing an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on June 25, 2002.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that all seven defendants conspired to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between April 1, 2001 and December 3, 2002.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Barker**, **Cantwell**, **Mathews** and **Bowman** attempted to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between November 1, 2001 and December 4, 2001.

Count Three of the federal indictment alleges that **Mathews**, during and in relation to a drug trafficking crime – the attempted manufacture of methamphetamine – possessed a firearm. The indictment alleges that **Mathews** was in possession of two Glock .40 caliber pistols on December 4, 2001, which were possessed with the intent to further the crime alleged in Count Two.

Count Four of the federal indictment alleges that **Bowman**, **Baker** and **Hall** attempted to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine on July 12, 2002.

Count Five of the federal indictment alleges that **Bowman** and **Rhoades** attempted to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine on August 21, 2002.

Count Six of the federal indictment alleges that **Rhoades** maintained a place for the purpose of manufacturing methamphetamine between August 21 and August 28, 2002.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David A. Barnes. It was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Missouri State Highway Patrol, and the Kansas City Metro Meth Task Force.

\*\*\*\*\*

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at  
[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)